

# **IN NOT OF**

**The wise man could not do it**

**God's chosen nation could not do it**

**The righteous man could not do it**

**And the religious men could not do it**



# **IS IT EVEN POSSIBLE?**



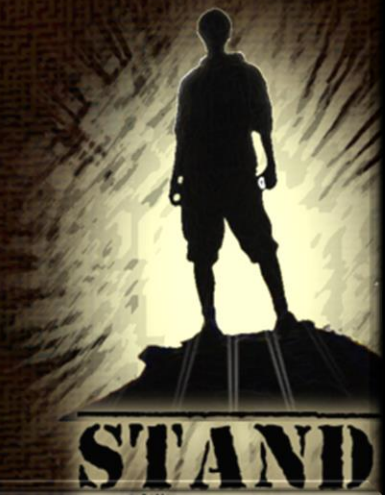
# UNDERSTANDING THIS SERIES

**We are going to focus primarily on Daniel and his friends**

**We want to look at what they were being asked to do**

**How they decided to handle the situation**

**Make some applications to us**



# WELCOME TO BABYLON

## Conquered (**Daniel 1:1-2**)

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the articles from the temple of God.

These he carried off to the temple of his god in Babylonia and put in the treasure house of his god.



# CONQUERED

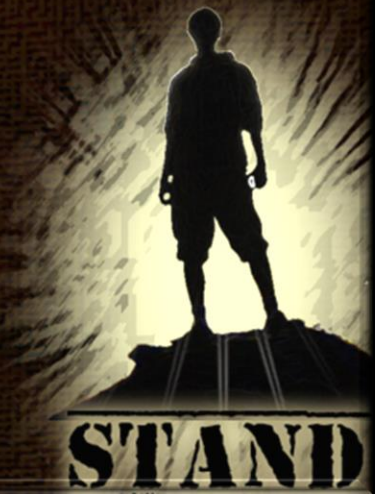
Israel had turned its back on God

God allowed the nation to fall Babylon

The Israelites were removed from their precious promise land

The items they had used to worship Jehovah were now placed in the pagan treasure house as souvenirs of the conquest

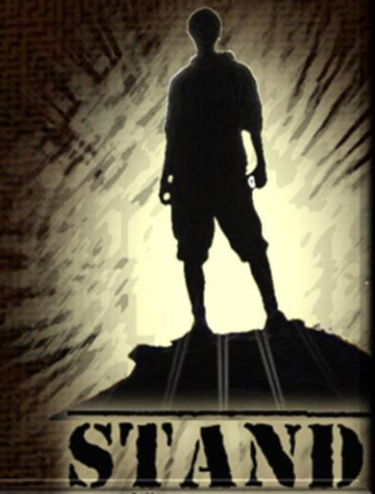
# FOREIGNERS AND EXILES



# CONQUERED

Resistance is Futile  
You will be Assimilated

**Daniel 1:3-8**



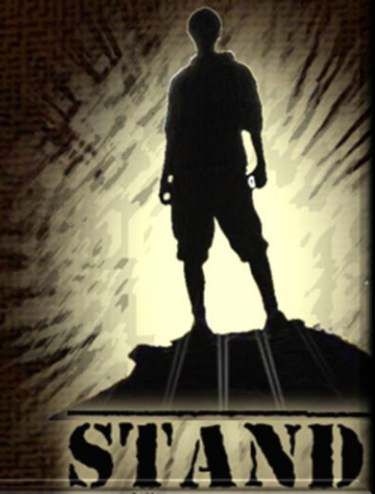
# ASSIMILATION

**Make no mistake Babylon had a plan**

**Not only did they relocate the citizens of Israel out of their land they now sat out on a plan to change their culture permanently**

**They chose young males from the royal family and nobility**

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# ASSIMILATION

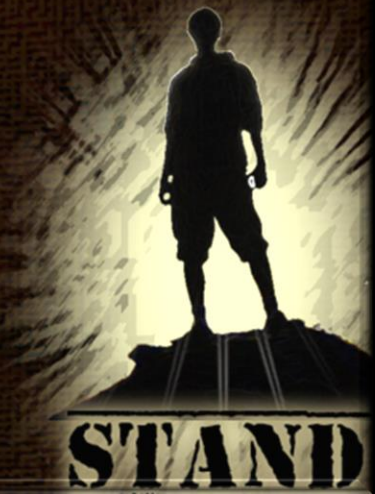
**Not only were they to be servants the idea was to change them completely**

**They were going to “school”**

**They were to be trained for three years**

**They were to be taught them the language and literature of the Babylonians**

**They were given Babylonian names**

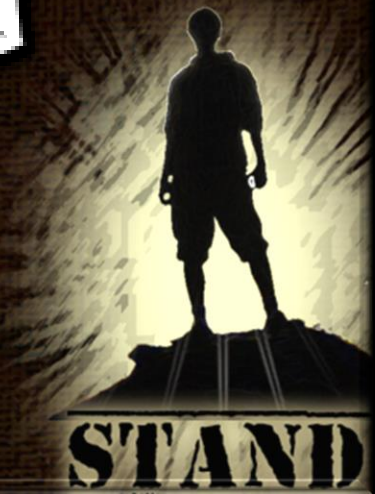




# ASSIMILATION

The were offered the best Babylon had to offer  
The king assigned them a daily amount of food and  
wine from the king s table

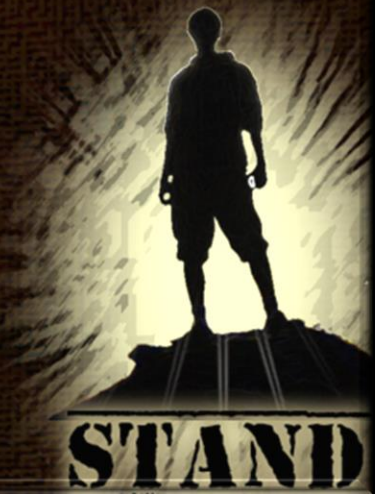
# PERFECT PLAN



# ONE SMALL PROBLEM

Daniel and His Buddies

**Daniel 1:8-16**



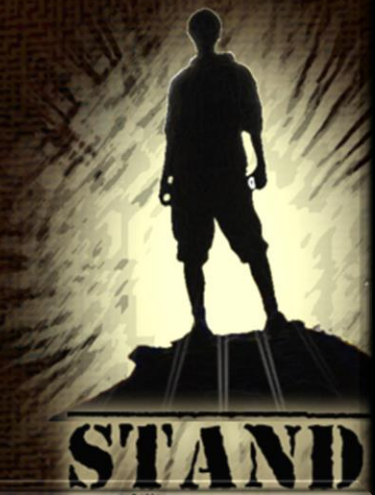
# RESOLVE

**Decide firmly on a course of action**

**Firm determination to do or not do something**

**This is an important word if you plan on living in the world but not of the world**

**This is battle of the mind and Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) decided no thanks**



# WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

They would not eat the king's food

This was not a hunger strike

The food quality was not the issue

This was not a health concern

The issue is Leviticus 11  
GOD SAID!



# DEFILE



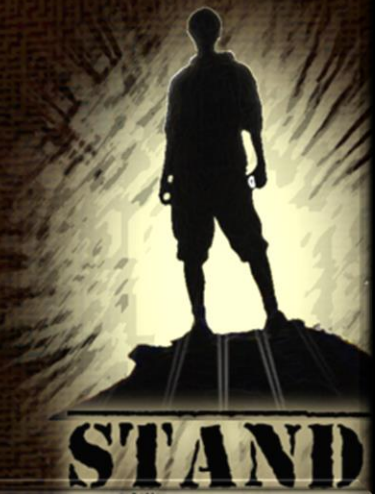
# IMPORTANT NOTES

**They refused to eat the food but it does not appear they disrespected the authority**

**They chose not to eat, others from the chosen ones did eat**

**It does not appear they lectured, or condemned them**

**At the end of the 10 days Daniels did not promise to eat, he promised to submit to be punished for not eating**



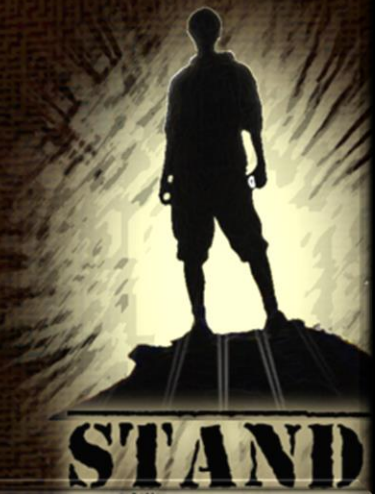
# **GOD AT WORK**

**Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel**

**God showed up physically in the fiery furnace**

**God shut the mouths of the lion**

**We often forget, God was working from the moment they took their stand**



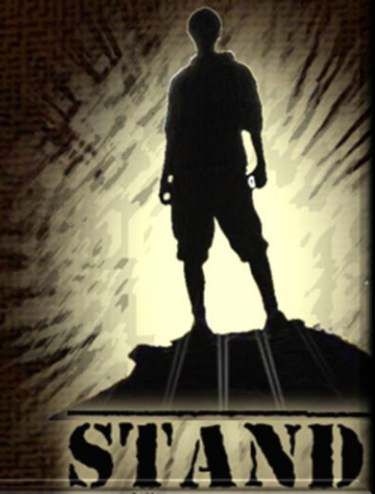
# APPLICATION FOR US

**Whoever says, I know him, but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person.**

**1 John 2:4**

**But remember the issue was not the food on the table, it was what God said verses what man said, that is the question**

**If we are going to live in this world, and be an effective testimony by not being of this world, we must place value on what God said**



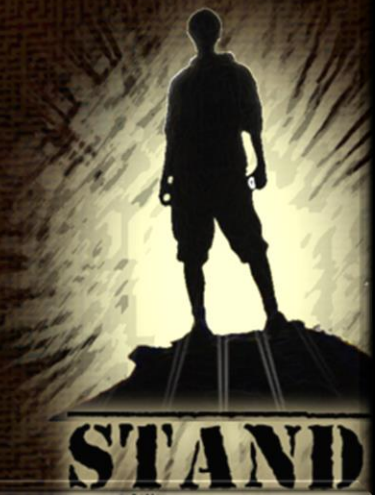
# IN NOT OF

The question can never be

**“is it legal?”**

the question is,

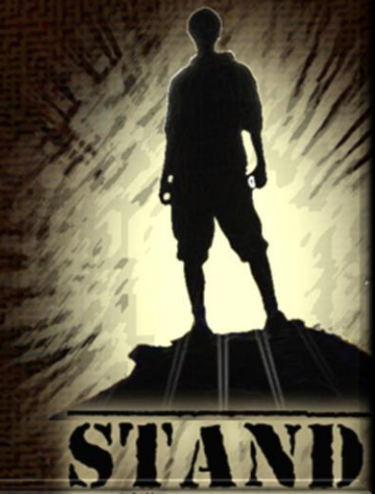
**“is it right?”**





# BATTLE OF THE MIND

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. **We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.**

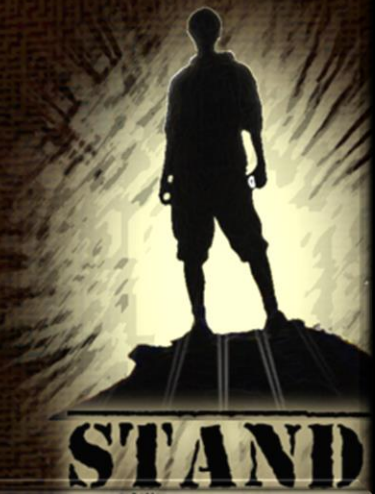


# STANDING OUT IN THE WORLD



The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so, they entered the king's service. In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanterers in his whole kingdom.

Daniel 1:19-20



# STANDING OUT IN THE WORLD

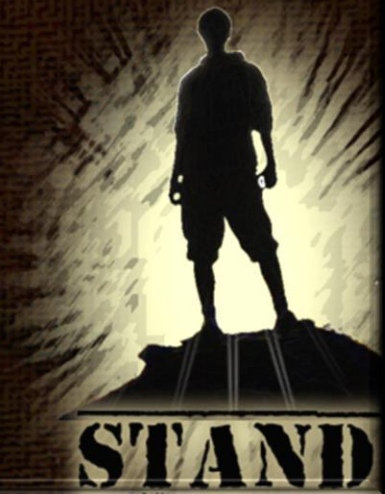


Notice they refused to eat the food of the king but they took the opportunity to learn the culture

They came before the king and he was impressed even though they did not eat his food

He took them into his service

King, you have no idea what you have just done, you have lost, you just do not know it yet





**DOES YOUR LIFE  
STAND OUT?**